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## Educational Leadership Program Newsletter March 2013

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## Important Dates

- March 25-April 1: Spring Break
- April 15: Patriots' Day, Dept. office closed, but classes will be held.
- April 4-3:00-4:30 Ed Leadership Advising night.

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UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN MAINE

## Educational Leadership Department Newsletter

Volume 3/Issue 5

March 2013

### Letter from the Department Chair



From the Chair,

March seems to be one of the most dreaded months for school principals. Staff and students alike have been inside for too long a period of time causing attitudes to be random and unpredictable. The weather can be cold and snowy one day and sunny and somewhat warm the next, causing people to curse the weathermen and long for Florida. Budgets get thrashed over rumors of staff lay-offs and monetary curtailments rampant and speculative.

If your team got upset in the first round at the recent basketball tournament, that adds to your woes. Parents ask you to approve trips to exotic, warm climates and want teachers to provide lessons in advance. They tell you that their child gets bored this time of year so a trip to Costa Rica to study exotic reptiles as they sit on the beach is just what the family needs to get them jump started for the rest of the year. And the list goes on and on.

So what do you do about all this? Well, you can join the crowd and whine as well. Agree with all the bad things that are happening. That is bound to make things better! Or you can take some initiative to improve the climate and hasten the calendar to April. Here are two ideas.

1. Every March I would declare one week Staff Appreciation Week. During that time there would be a number of activities and prizes given out. I should mention upfront that some of the gifts I bought and others were donated from the community. For example, each day fresh flowers and sandwiches from local shops were given away. Also, each day someone won gift certificates to restaurants. Names were read over the intercom and students would deliver the prizes. There were also contests that required them to know facts about other staff members, i.e., who went to Indiana University for their undergraduate degree. There might be 25 questions such as this. This would force them to maybe talk to staff in the building with whom they had no previous relationship.

*(continued on page 3)*

## The Department Welcomes Dr. Glenn Cummings



We are pleased to welcome Glenn Cummings to our Educational Leadership Faculty at USM. Glenn will be teaching Educational Leadership and Curriculum/Assessment courses while leading the Southern Maine Partnership. Glenn began teaching for the department this semester and held a well-attended opening meeting of the SMP on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Below please find a brief summary of Glenn's background. He looks forward to working with you in our joint mission to serve the students of Maine.

Almost three years ago, Dr. Glenn Cummings took over as President and Executive Director of Good Will-Hinckley organization and foundation, an historic 124-year-old school for youth located on a 2,400-acre campus in Hinckley, Maine. Under his tenure, the organization used a \$10.5 million philanthropic contribution from the Harold Alfond Founda-

tion to create the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences with a focus on environmental education as well as bringing Kennebec Valley Community College's new main campus to Hinckley.

Before returning home to Maine in 2010, Cummings served in President Obama's administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education, where he helped manage a \$1.9 billion annual budget that focused on improving access to adult education and literacy training, career and technical education, and community colleges. He was part of a team that designed President Obama's plan to boost America's graduation rate by 2020. Cummings also chaired the Department's *Green Initiative*, which focused on increasing the teaching and learning of sustainability principles in American education.

Cummings is former Speaker of the House in the Maine House of Representatives, Majority Leader, and Chairman of the state's Joint Committee of Education and Cultural Affairs, where he sponsored the bill to create the state community college system. He provided leadership for the passage of a bipartisan state budget; brokered an agreement on the largest economic investment bond package in the state's history; and successfully led an effort to increase higher education appropriations.

Prior to joining the U.S. Department of Education, Cummings served as instructor of micro and macroeconomics at University of Southern Maine and as Dean of Institutional Advancement at Southern Maine Community College (SMCC). While at SMCC, he founded one of the first student-centered entrepreneurial centers and small business incubators in Northern New England. Cummings also served as Executive Director of the Portland Partnership, where he built strategic alliances between businesses and high school students. A multi-generation Maine native, Cummings began his career in Gorham, Maine as a high school history teacher and department head. His grandmother graduated from the Gorham Normal School (now USM) in 1927 and became a teacher in Bath, Maine where Cummings was born and graduated from Morse High School.

Cummings obtained his Doctorate in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania. He previously earned a Masters of Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Brown University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Ohio Wesleyan University.

## **State Senator Addresses Opening Meeting of the Southern Maine Partnership**

Senator Rebecca Millett (D-South Portland), Senate Chair of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, addressed the Southern Maine Partners at their February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the bills presently before her committee.

The well-attended meeting featured Superintendents and school leaders from around the region. Participants expressed their thoughts regarding the closing of the Supplemental Budget as well as concerns regarding the upcoming Biannual Budget. These included the burden of local communities losing Revenue Sharing while being required to pay a sizable portion of Teacher's Retirement Benefits. Also discussed were issues of early childhood certification programs and the need to have a thorough, well-researched analysis of possible Charter Schools in Maine, particularly Virtual Schools.

The SMP meeting ended with a strong desire among participants to continue the legacy of a regional collaborative, like SMP, to link building and district-level practice with effective research. Participants encouraged a dine and discuss model for Superintendents and school leaders. Plans for a late March meeting are already underway.

To contact Glenn Cummings directly regarding the Southern Maine Partnership, please contact him at 838-7705 or [GCummings@usm.maine.edu](mailto:GCummings@usm.maine.edu)

### **Letter from the Director**

(continued from page 1)

It was not uncommon for staff to try and pry the information out of me. Everyone would also get a free lunch in the school café. For some it was their first time eating in the café. This usually led to more respect between café employees and staff. There were many more events during the week but you get the idea. The only complaints ever heard were from teachers in other buildings where they did not do this.

2. Embrace March Madness. I know this is controversial. There are two rules here you need to be mindful of. The first and most important is: don't run it out of your office or school. It is gambling. And two, don't win. I won once, edging out a first year teacher with two children.

The challenge for you is to turn a time of year that is dreaded into a time that staff eagerly anticipates. The only thing preventing that from occurring is your attitude!

## Thinking About Internship?

### **I think I am ready for the Ed. Leadership Internship. What do I need to do?**

The Internship and EDU 677: Seminar in School Management should be the last set of courses you need to take before graduating from the Educational Leadership Master's. The Internship can also be taken to fulfill the capstone requirement in our post-master's (CAS) in Educational Leadership program.

**Please notify Kathie Bickford at 780-5400 or [kbickford@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kbickford@usm.maine.edu) as soon as possible if you believe you are ready to start the Internship with the next group, which begins at the end of April. Faculty will review your transcripts and contact you to inform you of your eligibility.**

### **When does the Internship and EDU 677 Seminar in School Management take place?**

EDU 685: Principalship, EDU 686: Special Ed. Director, and EDU 688: Curriculum Coordinator Internships are nine graduate credits in total (three credits a semester) that span three consecutive semesters (summer, fall, and spring, respectively). The course meets once every two or three weeks for the whole year. During the summer, the meetings take place during the day, and during the fall and spring, the meetings occur from 7-9:30 PM. Individual meetings with you, your mentor, and your instructor are scheduled three times a year.

## Summer 2013 Registration

March 1: Advanced registration begins for matriculated students

March 5: Open for all students taking classes

Payment is due April 15. After April 15 payment is due at time of registration.

### Summer 2013 Session Dates:

Session I	Session II
4 week May 13-June 7	4 week July 1-July 26
7 week May 13-June 18	7 week July 1-Aug. 16

Holidays: Monday, May 27 Memorial Day  
Thursday, July 4 Independence Day

Many of our courses do not fit within these session dates. We offer a variety of formats (online, face to face, blended) and delivery times such as one week intensives. Be sure to check on MaineStreet to confirm class days and times.

## **Ongoing Faculty Position Search: Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership**

The University of Southern Maine's School of Education and Human Development seeks applicants for a full-time, tenure-track faculty position who are committed to focusing on developing new kinds of leadership in schools and improving the quality of curriculum and instructional practices in Maine schools. Primary teaching responsibilities include courses in educational leadership with a specific focus on principal leadership, evaluation and supervision, and supervision of fieldwork. In addition, the successful candidate will advise masters, CAS, and doctoral students, collaborate on grant-writing, conduct research, engage in professional service, participate on department, college, university, and state level committees, be ready to use current distance learning teaching technology, work in off-campus school-university partnership programs, such as working with Southern Maine Partnership and will have demonstrated leadership, preferably at the building level.

The School of Education and Human Development is committed to providing quality educational and professional development opportunities to prospective and current school leaders. The Educational Leadership Department offers a master's degree, two certificate programs, and a certificate of advanced study. The master's program is divided into three areas: administration for certification as a building principal, administration for certification as a special education director, and teacher leadership. In addition, the faculty works in collaboration with faculty from the Muskie School of Public Service to offer a PhD program in public policy with a focus on educational leadership.

**Qualifications: Required:** A doctorate in Educational Administration/Instructional Leadership. Recent experience in leadership roles in public schools and interest in taking an active role in K-12 school improvement efforts. **Preferred:** Research, publication record, and university teaching experience are desired. The applicant will have a demonstrable commitment to diversity, equity for all learners in schools and an understanding of the challenges facing school leaders today. Evidence of commitment to diversity, student success and active learning, and community engagement.

Apply online at: <https://usm.hiretouch.com/view-all-jobs>. You will need to upload a letter of application detailing qualifications for this position which should also include a statement of philosophy of school leadership; a curriculum vitae; and contact information for three professional references. Interviewees will be required to submit graduate transcripts or listing of graduate coursework. Review of applications will begin immediately. Anticipated start date is September 1, 2013. The university has an institution-wide commitment to inclusion, diversity, multiculturalism and community.

# Summer 2013 Schedule

CRN	COURSE	TITLE	DAY	TIME	ROOM	DATES	FORMAT	CR	SPECIAL DATES
	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	M W T W Th	4-6:30 p.m. 8:30-11:30 am	518 GLICK	5/13-6/12 6/18-6/20	Face to Face	3	See MaineStreet for details
	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	MW T W Th	7:00-9:p.m. 4:10-6:40 p.m.	518 GLICK	5/13-6/1 6/18-6/20	Face to Face	3	See MaineStreet for details
	EDU 600	Research Methods & Techniques	N/A	N/A	N/A	5/13-6/28	online	3	
	EDU 615	Middle Level Curric & Organiza- tion	MTWThF	8a.m.-4 p.m.	205 Payson	7/08-7/15	Face to Face	3	
	EDU 617	Teaching in the Middle Level Sch	MTWThF	8a.m.-4 p.m.	42 Pay- son	8/05-8/09	Face to Face	3	
	EDU 678	School Law	W	3:30-7:30		5/15-7/10	Face to Face	3	See MaineStreet for details of dates/time and location
	EDU 685	Internship in School Administra- tion	W	7:00-9:30			Face to Face	3	Mandatory Orientation mtg in Gorham on April 22
	EDU 685	Internship in School Administra- tion	W	7:00-9:30			Face to Face	3	Mandatory Orientation mtg in Gorham on April 22
	EDU 686	Internship in School Administra- tion.	W	7:00-9:30			Face to Face	3	Mandatory Orientation mtg in Gorham on April 22
	EDU 687	Internship in Superintendency	W	7:00-9:30			Face to Face	3	Mandatory Orientation mtg in Gorham on April 22
	EDU 688	Internship in Curriculum Admini- stration	W	7:00-9:30			Face to Face	3	Mandatory Orientation mtg in Gorham on April 22

**\*This schedule is tentative and is subject to changes. Please see MaineStreet for changes and updates.**



## Notes of Interest

### Finish Your CAS and Professional Educator Now and With Help!

We have simplified the process for Certificate of Advanced Study and Professional Educator students to complete their degrees.

We have launched a “Capstone /Directed Study” seminar in which candidates will formulate, carry out and report on their culminating projects with help and guidance.

Assistant Professor Tom Edwards will help you define, set up and register for your capstone or directed study course.

Associate Professor Jeff Beaudry will teach the Capstone/Directed Study seminar during 2012-13.

To take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Tom Edwards at [tedwards@usm.maine.edu](mailto:tedwards@usm.maine.edu) or at 865-3642 any day up to 9 pm, or Kathie Bickford at [kbickford@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kbickford@usm.maine.edu) or at 780-5400, from 9:00 a.m-5:30 p.m. weekdays.

### Planning Ahead: Advising Night

The next Ed. Leadership advising night is scheduled for April 4th, from 3:00-4:30 in 220-221 Bailey Hall. Call or email Kathie Bickford at 780-5400 or [kbickford@usm.maine.edu](mailto:kbickford@usm.maine.edu) to arrange an appointment with your faculty advisor.

## Faculty & Staff Program Directory

Faculty	Phone	Email
Jeffrey Beaudry.....	207-780-5493.....	<a href="mailto:jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu">jbeaudry@usm.maine.edu</a>
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